

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YAROSLAVSKY

SEPTEMBER 1, 2009

Mental illness affects one in four Americans every year, and co-occurrence of mental illness and substance abuse is a significant concern that requires integrated mental health treatment. The County of Los Angeles has made a commitment to community-based systems of mental health care for all residents. Mental health is a fundamental component of general health and indispensable to personal well-being, family and interpersonal relationships, and societal interactions.

The Department of Mental Health and National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) have joined the Board of Supervisors in a focused effort to raise awareness of mental health and mental illness by co-hosting the Sixth Annual NAMIWALKS for the Minds of America 5-K to be held at the Third Street Promenade in Santa Monica on Saturday, October 3, 2009. This represents the fourth consecutive year that the County of Los Angeles NAMIWALKS for the Minds of America 5-K has been held at this location.

Mental illness should not be an obstacle to a full and meaningful life for persons who live with the illness. NAMI recognizes that the key concepts of recovery, resiliency and support are essential to improving the wellness and quality of life of all persons affected by mental illness. NAMI advocates at all levels to ensure that all persons affected by mental illness receive the services that they need and deserve, in a timely

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RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

ANTONOVICH _____

KNABE _____

fashion.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors proclaim Saturday, October 3, 2009 as “NAMIWALKS for the Minds of America Day” throughout the County of Los Angeles and encourage employees and their families to participate in this event.

FGK:\2009 NAMIWALKS